

FEMA REGION V

short notes on planning #10

ASSESSING YOUR PLANNING CAPABILITIES

Prior to beginning the planning process, your community first needs to assess its current planning capabilities. Obviously, the first step is to determine whether you have trained employees that can provide staff to assist the mitigation planning team. If not, you may wish to turn to a regional planning commission for staff or hire a consultant to assist in your efforts

When hiring a consultant, be sure that the firm has experience in mitigation planning. Otherwise, you are also paying for the time that it takes the consultant to learn mitigation planning.

The next step is to determine what tools that your community already has available to use in the planning process. Attached is a checklist that you can use to help assess your capabilities. The checklist includes types of plans that your community may already have, types of ordinances that you may have adopted, and types of maps that your community already has that can be used to assess both the hazard and the risk.

Once you have completed your assessment, you will know how much work you need to do before putting your planning team together.

ASSESSING YOUR COMMUNITY'S PLANNING CAPABILITIES

Name of
Community: _____

Task A. Determine the Planning Area

| | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single Jurisdiction <input type="checkbox"/> County (unincorporated Areas Only) <input type="checkbox"/> County (unincorporated and incorporated Areas) <input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan Area <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-jurisdictional (list all jurisdictions involved) _____ _____ _____ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Planning Area <input type="checkbox"/> Watershed |
|---|---|

Task B. Determine Which Plans the Community Has in Place

| | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater Management Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Flood Mitigation Assistance Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Improvement Plan _____ _____ _____ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Land-use Plan only <input type="checkbox"/> Community Rating System Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Management Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Other Plans _____ _____ _____ _____ |
|--|--|

Task C. Determine Which Ordinances the Community Has in Place

| | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Subdivision Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Preservation Ordinance _____ _____ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Build Code <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ _____ _____ |
|---|--|

Task D. Other Resources

- ☐ **Geographical Information System (GIS) Capability**
- ☐ **Hazards US (HAZUS) Capability**
- ☐ **Zoning Maps**
- ☐ **Existing Land Use Maps**
- ☐ **Proposed Land Use Maps**
- ☐ **Highway Maps**
- ☐ **Infrastructure Maps**
- ☐ **Soils Maps**
- ☐ **Assessor's Property Index Maps**
- ☐ **Aerial Maps**
- ☐ **Topographic Maps**
- ☐ **Subdivision Maps**
- ☐ **NFIP Flood Maps**
- ☐ **NFIP Elevation Certificates**
- ☐ **Other**

Notes:
